GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1408
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016
Women Reservations in Panchayats
Girri Shri Maheish

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

a) whether the Government has conducted any study or analysis to evaluate impact of women's reservation policy in the Panchayati Raj Institutions, if so, the details thereof along with the key recommendations made thereon;
b) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding harassment of women candidates in local elections, if so, the details thereof;
c) whether the Government has taken an initiative to reward women who have made remarkable contribution as representatives of local governance bodies, if so, the details thereof; and
d) whether there is a training program especially for women representatives after getting elected, to introduce them to the governance system, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) A study on 'Elected Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)' was conducted during 2007-08. The study has observed that the reservations have provided opportunities to women to come up in the mainstream, provides them with a platform to interact, participate and enhance their image and played a significant role in getting substantial number of women representatives elected from the reserved seats. Reservation has facilitated the first entry into politics for most of the elected representatives.

(b) : As 'Panchayat' is a State subject, complaints regarding harassment of women candidates in Panchayat elections are handled by the States. Ministry has not received any complaint of harassment of women candidates during local elections.

(c) :Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskars are given to best performing Panchayats across the States/UTs in recognition of the good work done by the Panchayats at each level for improving delivery of services and public goods. These awards are given to the Panchayats including those where women elected representatives have made remarkable contribution.

(d) : Under the scheme Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan [erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan)], this Ministry has provided financial assistance to the States for the capacity building and training of elected representatives including elected women representatives as proposed by the States in their annual proposals which includes basic orientation course and other trainings.

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